



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Arctic Field Office
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In reply refer to:
FF095576
2984.01 (AK012)

PLAN CONFORMANCE / NEPA COMPLIANCE RECORD

DOI-BLM-LLAKF01200-2009-0033-CX

Arctic Field Office, Bureau of Land Management

Applicant: Alaska Science Center
United States Geologic Survey
Carl Markon, Acting Center Director
4210 University Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

Proposed Action: Information Gathering at various sites on the North Slope. (2984.01)

Description of Proposed Action: The applicant Alaska Science Center (ASC) United States Geologic Survey (USGS) Carl Markon has requested authorization for field activity access and landing by a floatplane, on lands within the National Petroleum Reserve Alaska (NPR-A). The activities would be in support of research for a book about climate change and Alaska.

The proposed action would authorize ASC to conduct summer work on NPR-A lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Mr. Markon proposes to fly in a chartered amphib plane to various areas on the North Slope, escorting a writer working a book about Alaska and climate change. They would fly over the goose molting area in mid July and camp at two possible sites for a night or two, with two landings by the plane, a drop off and pick up. The applicant also proposes two landings Southwest of Teshekpuk Lake in a USGS Yellow-billed Loon work area. In both areas the applicant proposes to walk along the lakeshore. Fuel storage is not proposed.

The proposed sites are in the Northeast and Northwest National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska. The proposed activity would take place approximately from July 13th through July 17, 2009.

Location (All Umiat Meridian):

13 North 19 West Sections 1-2,11-14,23-26,36
17 North 5 West Sections 22-37,34-36

Part I: Plan Conformance Review

The proposed action is subject to the following planning documents: Northeast National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska Supplemental Integrated Activity Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (IAP/EIS) dated July 2008, and Northwest National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska IAP/EIS dated 1/22/2004. The proposed action is not inconsistent with the purposes of the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act of 1976. The applicant will be provided with stipulations entitled "FF095576 Carl Markon, USGS Summer Stipulations 2009". The authorization will also be subject to the USFWS PROGRAMMATIC BIOLOGICAL OPINION for the Bureau of Land Management Summer Activities in 2009 in Undeveloped Areas of the National petroleum Reserve-Alaska.

Date July 10, 2009

/s/Donna L. Wixon
Natural Resource Specialist, Arctic Field Office

Part II: NEPA Review

Categorical Exclusion Review.

This proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 43 CFR 46.210 and 46.215

"Nondestructive data collection, inventory (including field, aerial, and satellite surveying and mapping), study, research, and monitoring activities."

The proposed action has been reviewed to determine if any of the exceptions described in 43 CFR 46.210 and 46.215, apply.

Date July 10, 2009

/s/Donna L. Wixon
Natural Resource Specialist, Arctic Field Office